

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-7 (Canceled)

8. (New) An information recording and reproducing medium, comprising:
a first area in which information can be recorded optically on one side of the medium; and
a second area for recording visual information on another side thereof,
wherein both sides are visually distinguishable due to difference between the first area and the second area.

9. (New) The information recording and reproducing medium according to claim 8, wherein the first area includes a first recording layer, and the second area includes a second recording layer, both recording layers are made of different material.

10. (New) The information recording and reproducing medium according to claim 9, wherein the first and second recording layers are made of different organic dye material.

11. (New) The information recording and reproducing medium according to claim 9, wherein difference in contrast between a written section of the information and a non-written section thereof, after recording the information, is more magnified in the second recording layer than in the first recording layer.

12. (New) The information recording and reproducing medium according to claim 8, wherein both the first and second areas are re-writable.

13. (New) The information recording and reproducing medium according to claim 8, wherein the another side of the medium includes visual image pattern comprising text or a design as a pit art or printing.

14. (New) An information recording and reproducing medium, comprising:
a first area in which information can be recorded optically on one side of the medium; and
a second area for recording visual information on another side thereof.

15. (New) The information recording and reproducing medium according to claim 14, wherein the visual information is recorded into the second area with a given heat.

16. (New) The information recording and reproducing medium according to claim 14, wherein the second area includes material in which a chemical change is caused by a given heat, so that the chemical change of the material enables the visual information to be recorded thereon.

17. (New) The information recording and reproducing medium according to claim 14, wherein the visual information is recorded on the second area by a light beam supplied from outside.

18. (New) The information recording and reproducing medium according to claim 14, wherein both the first and second areas are re-writable.

19. (New) The information recording and reproducing medium according to claim 14, wherein the another side of the medium includes visual image pattern comprising text or a design as a pit art or printing.